



BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

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20 May 1993

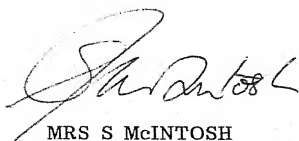
Dear Sir

FOURTH GENERAL REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

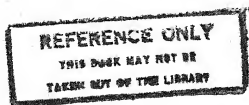
I refer to your request for details of proposals by the Boundary Commission for Scotland under the current review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries.

The Commission has now published its provisional recommendation that for the purposes of formulating parliamentary constituency boundaries Central Region and Tayside Region should be amalgamated, and that the joint area should provide two burgh constituencies and seven county constituencies. I enclose one copy each of the statutory public notice and news release for your perusal.

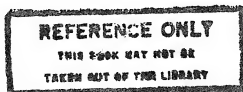
Yours faithfully



MRS S McINTOSH



JAT02509.053



NEWS RELEASE

ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

NOT FOR PUBLICATION, BROADCAST OR USE ON CLUB TAPES BEFORE
0001 HOURS ON THURSDAY 22 APRIL 1993

PROPOSALS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES IN CENTRAL AND TAYSIDE REGIONS

The Boundary Commission for Scotland has provisionally decided to recommend that for the purposes of formulating parliamentary constituency boundaries Central Region and Tayside Region should be amalgamated and that the joint area should provide 2 burgh constituencies and seven county constituencies.

The publication of this recommendation is the third in the fourth general review of Parliamentary constituency boundaries announced by the Boundary Commission for Scotland on 16 February 1992. The names, designations and 1992 electorates of the nine constituencies are:

Dundee East Burgh Constituency:	61,286
Dundee West Burgh Constituency:	60,353
Angus East County Constituency:	58,883
Falkirk East County Constituency:	55,582
Falkirk West County Constituency:	55,102
North Tayside County Constituency:	53,538
Ochil County Constituency:	55,771
Perth County Constituency:	58,571
Stirling County Constituency:	57,756

PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

At an earlier stage in its deliberations, the Commission agreed to consider schemes which would involve the amalgamation of those pairs of local authority regions which would produce, for the area, a rounded joint theoretical entitlement of one less than the aggregate of the rounded separate theoretical entitlements of the two regions. One of these pairs is Central and Tayside Regions.

The combined electorate of Central and Tayside Regions is 516,803. The electoral quota for Scotland is 54,569, giving a rounded entitlement for the area of 9 seats. The Commission's recommendations have been prepared with a view to minimising the disruption to the present

boundaries within a scheme of amalgamation and producing 9 broadly equal constituencies in electorate terms for Central and Tayside Regions. The effects of the amalgamation are seen only in the newly formed Ochil constituency which comprises most of the former Clackmannan constituency plus 2 electoral divisions (Auchterarder and Kinross) formerly in Perth and Kinross constituency.

The Commission wishes to stress that this provisional recommendation relates solely to Parliamentary constituencies and does not affect the structure or arrangements of local government in Central and Tayside Regions or the services they provide.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

Rules for Redistribution

The Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 contains the rules for redistribution of seats which have the following general effect. The electorates of constituencies are to be as nearly equal as possible, but in formulating its proposals the Commission shall have regard to local authority boundaries. The Commission may, however, decide to overlook a local authority boundary if it considers that other aspects of the rules which take precedence require this to happen. In addition, the Commission can depart from these rules if special geographical considerations make this desirable, or if changes cause inconveniences or break local ties. It is for the Commission to decide on the interpretation of the rules in these respects.

The Act requires the Commission in considering the size of constituency electorates to work to the electoral quota throughout the period of the general review. The electoral quota is arrived at by dividing the electorate in Scotland on the enumeration date by the existing number of seats. The enumeration date is the date when the start of the general review was announced (16 February 1992). The electorate in Scotland on the enumeration date was 3,928,996 which, when divided by the existing number of seats (72), produces an electoral quota of 54,569.

In formulating proposals the Commission relies on the new electoral divisions as announced by the Secretary of State following the reviews of local electoral arrangements by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland. Proposals for Parliamentary constituencies will comprise groups of whole electoral divisions.

REPRESENTATIONS

The Commission is required to consider representations about its provisional recommendations made within one month of local publication. These representations should be addressed to the Secretary, Boundary Commission for Scotland, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3DG. In this case the representation period ends on Monday 24 May 1993.

Where representations objecting to the provisional recommendations are made by an interested local authority or a body of 100 or more electors, the Commission cannot proceed with its final recommendations to the Secretary of State for Scotland until a local inquiry has been held. If after the inquiry the Commission decides to alter its recommendations, the revised recommendations must also be published, but a further local inquiry is not obligatory.

Those who make representations are requested to state whether they approve of, or object to, the Commission's proposals and to give their reasons for their approval or objections. In particular, objectors are advised to say what they propose in place of the Commission's recommendations and should note that an objection accompanied by a counter-proposal is likely to carry more weight than a simple statement of objection.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission must submit its report on the general review for the whole of Scotland by 31 December 1994. It is the Secretary of State for Scotland's duty to lay the Commission's report before Parliament together with a draft Order in Council giving effect to the recommendations with or without modifications. The draft Order is submitted to both Houses of Parliament for approval and, after this is made, the new constituencies take effect at the next general election.

BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

General Review of Parliamentary Constituency Boundaries
Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Boundary Commission for Scotland has provisionally determined to recommend to the Secretary of State for Scotland in terms of Section 5 of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 that the area comprising Central Region and Tayside Region shall be divided into two burgh constituencies and seven county constituencies and that their names and contents are to be as shown in columns 1 and 2 below:

Name of Constituency (1)	Contents of Constituency (2)	1992 Parliamentary Electorate (3)
<u>Burgh Constituencies</u>		
Dundee East	(1) The following regional electoral divisions in the District of the City of Dundee numbered: 16, 17, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29.	61,286
Dundee West	(1) The following regional electoral divisions in the District of the City of Dundee numbered: 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22.	60,353
<u>County Constituencies</u>		
Angus East	(i) The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Angus numbered: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9;	
	(ii) The following regional electoral divisions in the District of the City of Dundee numbered: 30, 31.	58,883
Falkirk East	(i) The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Falkirk numbered: 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 30, 34, 35.	55,582

Name of Constituency (1)		Contents of Constituency (2)	1992 Parliamentary Electorate (3)
Falkirk West	(i)	The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Falkirk numbered: 18, 19, 21, 22, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33.	55,102
North Tayside	(i)	The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Angus numbered: 6, 7, 10, 11;	
	(ii)	The following regional electoral divisions in the district of Perth and Kinross numbered: 41, 42, 43, 44.	53,538
Ochil	(i)	The District of Clackmannan;	
	(ii)	The following regional electoral division in the District of Stirling numbered: 13;	
	(iii)	The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Perth and Kinross numbered: 39, 46.	55,771
Perth	(i)	The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Perth and Kinross numbered: 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 45.	58,571
Stirling	(i)	The following regional electoral divisions in the District of Stirling numbered: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17.	57,756

FOOTNOTE

- (i) The regional electoral divisions referred to in column (2) are as constituted by the Central Region (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1993 and the Tayside Region (Electoral Arrangements) Order 1993.
- (ii) The 1992 electoral quota, which is being used in the present general review is 54,569.

- (iii) A copy of this notice, maps illustrating the recommendations set out above and a copy of an explanatory memorandum can be inspected at the following Regional/District Council Headquarters:-

Central Regional Council, Viewforth, Stirling
Falkirk District Council, Municipal Buildings, Falkirk
Stirling District Council, Municipal Buildings, Corn Exchange
Road, Stirling
Clackmannan District Council, Greenfield, Alloa
Tayside Regional Council, Tayside House, 28 Crichton Street,
Dundee
Perth and Kinross District Council, 2 High Street, Perth
City of Dundee District Council, City Chambers, Dundee
Angus District Council, County Buildings, Forfar.

and also at the following District Council Sub-offices:

Municipal Chambers, Grangemouth
Main Street, Stenhousemuir, Larbert
Townhouse, Denny
Seaview Place, Boness
6 New Road, Bannockburn
South Church Street, Callander
Johnstone Avenue, Cornton
Old Schoolhouse, Cowie
Burgh Chambers, Dunblane
6-8 The Square, Fallin
36 Main Street, Plean
37 Modans Road, St Ninians
Drysdale Street, Alloa
Main Street, Sauchie
Stirling Street, Alva
High Street, Clackmannan
Troncourt, Tullibody
High Street, Tillicoultry
13 Hill Terrace, Arbroath
26 High Street, Carnoustie
Marywell Brae, Kirriemuir
Bank Street, Brechin

208 High Street, Montrose
Lodge Street, Crieff
21 High Street, Kinross
Bank Street, Aberfeldy
Aytoun Hall, High Street, Auchterarder
Leslie Street, Blairgowrie
26 Atholl Street, Pitlochry

REPRESENTATIONS with regard to this provisional recommendation may be made to the Commission within one month of the date of publication of this notice and should be addressed to the Secretary, Boundary Commission for Scotland, Room 226, St Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3DG.

Dated this 22nd day of April 1993

By Order of the
BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

D K C JEFFREY
Secretary

**BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND: FOURTH GENERAL REVIEW OF
PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES: COMMENCING 1992**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

PART ONE: THE BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS

1. There are 4 Parliamentary Boundary Commissions (for Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland) and by law¹ they are required to keep under review the parliamentary constituencies in their parts of the United Kingdom and, periodically, to conduct a general review. The Speaker of the House of Commons, Miss Betty Boothroyd MP, is the chairman of each of the 4 Commissions; the Boundary Commission for Scotland, henceforth referred to as "the Commission", also has a deputy chairman, The Hon Lord Davidson, who is a judge of the Court of Session appointed by the Lord President of the Court of Session; there are 2 other members of the Commission, Mr A R Napier and Professor U A Wannop, appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland (after consultation with the leaders of the political parties in Scotland represented in Parliament). There are also 2 assessors - Dr C M Glennie, Registrar General for Scotland, and the Director General, Ordnance Survey, represented by Mr M Faulkner.

2. As a consequence of the Boundary Commissions Act 1992 the Commission's final recommendations must be made in a report submitted to the Secretary of State by 31 December 1994. Thereafter reports have to be submitted between 8 and 12 years from the date of the previous report. Following the third general review a report was submitted in February 1983².

¹Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986, which has been amended by the Boundary Commissions Act 1992.

²Third Periodical Report (Cmnd. 8794), Printed by HM Stationery Office.

PART TWO: PROCEDURE FOR REVIEW

A. PROVISIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Commission first determines on a provisional recommendation, usually for a group of constituencies forming a region, though the Commission is not required to be bound by local government areas. The Commission will follow the established practice of publishing provisional recommendations without prior consultation with local authorities and other interests. The Commission considers that it should take the initiative in preparing provisional recommendations from all the information available to it. In this way it is not influenced by any particular viewpoint. These provisional proposals are then available for public comment.

a. Advertisement

4. The law requires the Commission to publish a notice of its provisional recommendations in at least one newspaper circulating in the constituency. The notice has to specify a place in the constituency where details of the proposals may be inspected. Such proposals are always illustrated by maps to help make the public more aware of the effect of the Commission's proposals.

b. Objections and Representations

5. The notice also states that representations may be made to the Commission within one month of its publication. That is the period prescribed by law but the Commission may grant a reasonable extension of that period to assist local authorities or others who wish to make representations to do so.

c. Inquiry

6. The Commission is required to hold a local inquiry if representations objecting to the proposed recommendation are received from an interested local authority (that is the council of a region, islands area or district for the area lying wholly or partly in the affected constituency) or a body of 100 or more parliamentary electors for such a constituency.

7. The inquiry is conducted by an Assistant Commissioner appointed by the Secretary of State at the request of the Commission. No statutory procedure is prescribed for the conduct of the local inquiry. The purpose is -

to get to know local opinions,
to hear criticisms of the provisional recommendations,
to receive counter-proposals and to enable everyone who wishes to
comment on these or on the Commission's proposals to do so.

The Commission is not represented at the inquiry, although a member of the secretariat may be present as an observer. Those who wish to express their views may do so in person, or through a representative, even though they may not have filed written representations.

8. The Assistant Commissioner makes his report directly to the Commission; besides commenting on the various objections received he is fully at liberty to suggest amendments or alterations to the Commission's proposals - or even the substitution of completely different proposals if they appear to him to command wider acceptance than the original proposals.

B. Final Recommendations

9. The Commission will then consider the Assistant Commissioner's report and the matters discussed at the inquiry, together with any other relevant information, when formulating its final recommendations. If the Commission decides to alter the provisional recommendations the revised proposals are published in at least one local newspaper and made available for public inspection. If there has been a local inquiry, a copy of the Assistant Commissioner's report is also made available and those who took part in the inquiry each receive a copy of the report. Representations about these further proposals may then be made within a one-month period. The Commission is not obliged to hold a further inquiry in respect of a constituency, but may do so if it considers it necessary to obtain more information or local opinion on certain matters. If the Commission decides to modify its revised recommendations before finally submitting them to the Secretary of State the fresh proposals will be

published and representations invited again, but no further inquiry will be held at that stage.

C. Order in Council

10. The Secretary of State is under a duty to lay the Commission's report of its review before Parliament. If the report recommends alterations the Secretary of State must accompany it with a draft Order in Council giving effect to the proposals. But if the Secretary of State decides to modify the recommendations he must lay a statement of the reasons for the modifications in the draft Order, for consideration with the report. The Order must be approved by both Houses of Parliament and, if approved, takes effect at the next general election.

PART THREE: RULES FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS

A. The Rules

11. In formulating recommendations for constituencies, the Commission is required to observe the rules for redistribution of seats.³ These rules are reproduced in the Appendix to this Memorandum. So far as is practicable, in recommending a constituency the Commission must have regard to local government areas. Constituencies must be as near the average electorate⁴ as is practicable, but the Commission has a discretion to depart from this rule particularly where there are special geographical considerations such as the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency. The exercise of this discretion has the consequential effect that some constituencies must have electorates greater or lower than the average.

³Schedule 2 of the Act of 1986.

⁴For the purpose of the current general review this is 54, 569 ie the total electorate for 1992 (3,928,996) divided by the existing number (72) of Scottish seats (see Rule 8 of the Redistribution Rules). [The average electorates for England, Wales and Northern Ireland in 1992 were 69,534, 58,383 and 67,145 respectively.]

B. The Commission's Practice

12. The Commission prefers to avoid making recommendations for constituencies which would cross regional boundaries but recognises that this may not always be possible. Where possible the Commission's aim is to produce constituencies which lie wholly within one district or comprise whole districts, but it is clear that the electorates of many of the districts are not of the right size to facilitate the achievement of this result.

13. In principle, the Commission has accordingly decided to use the regional electoral divisions as the basis, or exceptionally the district wards (where these are available), for forming constituencies in the cases where districts must be divided. The regional electoral divisions in question are those brought into operation following the Local Government Boundary Commission's second statutory review of regional and islands areas electoral arrangements under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. The Commission is disposed against any division of the basic local government electoral area between constituencies as this would be likely to break local ties, disrupt political party organisation and be confusing to the electorate.

14. The Commission is not obliged to give full effect to the rules in all circumstances.⁵ It is directed to take account, so far as it reasonably can, of the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies and of any local ties which would be broken by such alterations.

C. Naming and Designation

15. The Commission's recommendations for each constituency must include the name by which it should be known and whether it should be a burgh constituency or a county constituency.⁶ This decision affects the expenses allowable at elections, which differ according to the classification of a constituency as a burgh or county constituency. The Commission

⁵Schedule 2, paragraph 7, of the Act of 1986.

⁶Section 3(4) of the Act of 1986.

considers that where constituencies are composed predominantly of urban areas they will normally be designated as burgh constituencies. However, where constituencies contain more than a token rural electorate they will normally be designated as county constituencies.

D. Other Considerations

16. The Commission may be asked to take account of special considerations other than those specified in the rules which affect an area and which, according to those who make the request, justify more favourable representation than that of other areas. When deciding between alternative schemes the Commission may, in appropriate cases, have regard to perceptible trends in the electorate which would quickly produce constituencies well above or well below the average size electorate for Scotland when deciding between alternative schemes.

PART FOUR: TIMING OF REVIEWS

17. The period required for the Commission's review is dictated partly by the size of the task and partly by the statutory procedures which are intended to allow full expression of opinions about the proposals at various stages. Parliament has decided, in the Boundary Commissions Act 1992, to set 31 December 1994 as the deadline for completing the current review. The constituencies, if approved by both Houses of Parliament, come into operation at the general election which next follows the making of the Order in Council providing the new constituencies.

PART FIVE: INTERIM REVIEWS

18. The Commission may also conduct other reviews between its general reviews. These interim reviews have in the past reflected changes in local government boundaries and are intended to produce compatible parliamentary constituency and local government boundaries.

RULES FOR REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS

(Second Schedule to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986)

1. - (1) The number of constituencies in Great Britain shall not be substantially greater or less than 613.

(2) The number of constituencies in Scotland shall not be less than 71.

(3) The number of constituencies in Wales shall not be less than 35.

(4) The number of constituencies in Northern Ireland shall not be greater than 18 or less than 16, and shall be 17 unless it appears to the Boundary Commission for Northern Ireland that Northern Ireland should for the time being be divided into 16 or (as the case may be) into 18 constituencies.
2. Every constituency shall return a single member.
3. There shall continue to be a constituency which shall include the whole of the City of London and the name of which shall refer to the City of London.
4. - (1) So far as is practicable having regard to rules 1 to 3 -
 - (a) In England and Wales, -
 - (i) no county or any part of a county shall be included in a constituency which includes the whole or part of any other county or the whole or part of a London borough,
 - (ii) no London borough or any part of a London borough shall be included in a constituency which includes the whole or part of any other London borough,

- (b) in Scotland, regard shall be had to the boundaries of local authority areas,
 - (c) in Northern Ireland, no ward shall be included partly in one constituency and partly in another.
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1)(b) above "area" and "local authority" have the same meanings as in the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
5. The electorate of any constituency shall be as near the electoral quota as is practicable having regard to rules 1 to 4; and a Boundary Commission may depart from the strict application of rule 4 if it appears to them that a departure is desirable to avoid an excessive disparity between the electorate of any constituency and the electoral quota, or between the electorate of any constituency and that of neighbouring constituencies in the part of the United Kingdom with which they are concerned.
6. A Boundary Commission may depart from the strict application of rules 4 and 5 if special geographical considerations, including in particular the size, shape and accessibility of a constituency, appear to them to render a departure desirable.

General and supplementary

7. It shall not be the duty of a Boundary Commission to aim at giving full effect in all circumstances to the above rules, but they shall take account, so far as they reasonably can -
- (a) of the inconveniences attendant on alterations of constituencies other than alterations made for the purposes of rule 4, and
 - (b) of any local ties which would be broken by such alterations.

8. In the application of rule 5 to each part of the United Kingdom for which there is a Boundary Commission -

(a) the expression "electoral quota" means a number obtained by dividing the electorate for that part of the United Kingdom by the number of constituencies in it existing on the enumeration date,

(b) the expression "electorate" means -

(i) in relation to a constituency, the number of persons whose names appear on the register of parliamentary electors in force on the enumeration date under the Representation of the People Acts for the constituency,

(ii) in relation to the part of the United Kingdom, the aggregate electorate as defined in sub-paragraph (i) above of all the constituencies in that part,

(c) the expression "enumeration date" means, in relation to any report of a Boundary Commission under this Act, the date on which the notice with respect to that report is published in accordance with section 5(1) of this Act.

9. In this Schedule, a reference to a rule followed by a number is a reference to the rule set out in the correspondingly numbered paragraph of this Schedule.